

# Statistics for Public Health Research

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**Lecture 10-11**

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# Measures of Morbidity

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- Incidence rate:
- The number of new cases of a disease that occur during specific period of time (**numerator**) in a population at risk for developing the disease (**denominator**)



# Incidence rate

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- Incidence is the rate of new (or newly diagnosed) cases of the disease
- It is reported as the number of new cases occurring within a period of time (e.g., per month, per year)
- The incidence rate is reported as a portion of the population at risk of developing the disease (e.g., per 100,000 or per million population).

# Incidence rate

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- Incidence rates can be categorized according to different subsets of the population.
- by gender,
- by racial origin,
- by age group or
- by diagnostic category.

# How to calculate incidence rate

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*Number of new cases of disease or injury  
during specified period*

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*Time each person was observed, totaled  
for all persons*



# How to calculate incidence rate

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- In order to measure the incidence rate of a disease in a population we first need a denominator
- The denominator is a measure of the time spent by each individual in the population at risk of developing illness during the study period

# How to calculate incidence rate

	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year
ID Number	1	2	3	4	5	6
1					D	
2						D
3			D			
4						
5						
6						
7					D	
8						
9			D			
10						
Alghamdi						

# How to calculate incidence rate

ID Number	Number of years at risk		Disease onset	
1		5		Yes
2		5		Yes
3		2		Yes
4		2		No
5		4		No
6		6		No
7		5		Yes
8		4		No
9		3		Yes
10		4		No
Total		40		5



# How to calculate incidence rate

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- Incidence rate =  $5 \div 40 = 0.125 \times 100 = 12.5$  per 100 person years

# Cumulative Incidence

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- Cumulative incidence is calculated as the number of new events or cases of disease divided by the total number of individuals in the population at risk for a specific time interval.

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# Cumulative Incidence

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Cumulative Incidence (for new cases in a specified period of time):

$$CI = \frac{\text{Number of new cases during a specified period of time}}{\text{Number of total population at risk}}$$

# Prevalence Rate

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- The prevalence measures the proportion of individuals in a population with a specific disease at a certain point of time.

$$\frac{\text{Old cases} + \text{New cases}}{\text{Population at risk}}$$

# How to calculate prevalence rate

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- **EXAMPLE**

Five new cases of diabetes were reported, and the prevalence rate in 2017 was 30 per 100,000 population.

Cases = 5

Population at risk = 20,000

Prevalence rate =  $\frac{5}{20,000} = 0.00025 \times 100,000 = 25$  per 100,000 population



# Prevalence rate

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- **Prevalence rates are increased by:**

An increase in the number of new cases ( $\uparrow$  incidence)

A reduction in deaths due to disease ( $\downarrow$  mortality)

New treatments that prolong life but not cure the disease

- **Prevalence rates are decreased by:**

Reduced number of new cases ( $\downarrow$  Incidence)

Increased number of cures

# Reference

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- 1. Rothman KJ; Epidemiology: an introduction. Oxford University Press 2002, p.28-33.

# Good Luck for All Students

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- Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.
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# سبحان الله وبحمده سبحان الله العظيم

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ذكر الله أعظم ما في الوجود ،، لعل الله يرحمنا بعلم تعلمناه في الحياة  
الدنيا

أستغفر الله